

# Why Grow Old?... Make Life Worth Living... Be Active and Interested

By ELEANOR GILBERT

"I think it's up to us to keep active and interested and to keep ourselves up," declared 77-year-old Mrs. Albert Kitto, 824 Cota Ave. "We owe it to God. He still has something for us to do and that's why we're here."

Mr. and Mrs. Kitto celebrated happy birthdays this month when he became 81 years young on May 19 and Mrs. Kitto 77 years on the 17th. They are long-time residents of Torrance. He came to the area in 1904 and was employed by the Pacific Electric for 24 years.

"We've always been happy in our work and that's half the battle," said the little lady who regularly attends the beauty shop and feels her husband likes to see her looking attractive. She feels that happiness and contentment constitute the real fountain of youth.

Nutrition is important, too. "I feel our food is our health," she added. "My husband is very fussy about his food and I always have set a good table."

For over 19 years Mrs. Kitto traveled over the United States as a milliner. She would also go on trimming jobs for the large department stores. There were two seasons in the millinery trade—in September for the fall and winter season, and in the early spring before Easter.

"The millinery business is not like that now," she laughs. "Now it's an all-the-year-round business. But there was always something for me to do. I was never idle." She has also worked as a governess and an "infant's nurse."

A certain amount of rest was also necessary for health. "I knew I had to have three good nights' rest when I was working."

Mrs. Kitto was born in Depore, Wis., in 1880. She attended St. Joseph's Catholic School and worked as a paper sorter in Depore for eight years after her schooling. Being of French descent, she read and spoke the language fluently.

This ability was an asset when she was employed by a well-to-do woman whose business it was to travel to Paris, buying hats there, and then reproducing them in this country for her exclusive clientele. Mrs. Kitto would read books

brought from France to her employer, as well as make copies of the famous designer hats.

At present Mrs. Kitto only trims her own hats or helps her many friends if they have a millinery problem. "I don't have the tools to do any more than that," she said.

Her creative efforts for the most part are confined to doing "fancywork," which is an all-absorbing hobby. She is most proud of a gorgeous rainbow colored afghan with a unique shell-stitch which she designed. She also makes a little "pin money" from her clever creations.

The Catholic Daughters of the Nativity Church and the Altar Society are also important activities in her young life. "I do as much as I can," she said, although she has a problem with her foot that precludes standing for long periods now.

When asked if she participated in her husband's hobby of gardening, she said, "I could plant flowers on hats, but not in the garden. Nothing would grow for me. But I help pull weeds sometimes."

Alfred Kitto has a Bird of Paradise plant which is "his pride and joy," according to his wife. It started blooming last October, has bloomed all winter and still has buds on it.

Reading is another great interest of this gentleman who has seen this area which had a "great many vacant spaces" in 1904 develop into the highly populated area it is now. "There were just a few scattered houses then. And the Pacific Electric Co. had built many of the homes at that time for their employees."

During World War II, when industry was so short of help, Mr. Kitto came out of retirement and worked for three years with the National Supply

Co. as his share of the war effort for his adopted country. He was born in Portsmouth, England, in 1876, going to Canada while still a boy of 14, where he remained until coming here in 1904.

The Kitto's celebrated their 22nd wedding anniversary on Jan. 30. Working together and sharing each other's interests has made for a full and complete life. Mr. Kitto is an Episcopalian but he acts as a collection agent for old papers for St. Vincent de Paul (an organization similar to the Salvation Army). This is his contribution to his wife's church, he says. Their religious faith has been an important factor in their health and well-being, they feel, even though their church affiliations are different.

"We thank God that we are both able to be active and get around as we do. We are just as well as can be, except for my foot," said Mrs. Kitto, whose lively expression mirrors the youthfulness of spirit possessed by them both. "We don't think we should give up just because we're adding a few years." And they very definitely haven't.

## LOCAL GIRL WILL TEACH IN BARSTOW

Miss Mickey Van Deventer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grover C. Van Deventer who will be graduated as a music education major from Redlands University on June 9, has accepted a teaching contract in the Barstow school system.

Dr. Walter Reinholdt, formerly of Torrance, is assistant superintendent of the Barstow schools. Arriving to attend Mickey's graduation will be her aunt, Mrs. Adeline Goetz of Vacaville, and Mr. and Mrs. James Wheat and daughter, Patricia, of Filmore. Also attending will be Christa Volkman, foreign exchange student here.



MR. MRS. ALBERT KITTO ... Admire Bird of Paradise

## New YWCA Residence Hall To Be Dedicated on June 9

Dreams will become a reality when the first phase of the YWCA Forward Step Campaign is completed with the dedication of the Residence Hall at 437 W. 9th St., on Sunday, June 9, at 2:30 p.m.

The idea of a Residence Hall for women was conceived by the Soroptimist International of the Harbor District several years ago. This was culminated with the pledge of \$20,000 toward the Forward Step Campaign.

The new 3000 square foot structure of modern design was erected at a cost of \$37,000 Catherine Lockett, building chairman, reports. It consists of 13 rooms including the house supervisors apartment and residence kitchen. Single rooms with adjoining bath, each with wardrobe, individual heating, bed, dressing table, comprise the individual set up.

The program will include an organ prelude, Harold Lyman and Warren Patrick; welcome and introduction of special guests, Mrs. E. C. Spires, president Harbor area YWCA; acknowledgements, Mrs. Arnold Ecklund, chairman women's division, Forward Step Campaign; presentation of keys, Andrew Joncich, William Lusby, F. L. Sebesta, and Catherine J. Lockett; acceptance of keys, Mrs. Spires. Litany of dedication led by Mrs. Elsa J. Morris, executive director, Harbor area YWCA; prayer of dedication, Dr. Andrew MacCormick, pastor, First Presbyterian Church; hymn, "Bless This House," High School Girls' Ensemble, Mrs. Elizabeth Shuck, director.

## PTA Units Survey 2300 Newsstands

Six PTA units from the Torrance Council recently participated in a county-wide "dragnet" basis to survey the existence of sale of salacious magazines.

In Los Angeles county, 2300 newsstands were contacted by 552 PTA units' juvenile protection chairmen. Results indicated that more than 655 newsstands still carry salacious literature for sale.

In the Thirty-third District 193, local PTA associations, surveyed 935 newsstands, listing 304 offenders.

Checking the comic books, the overwhelming majority found only those bearing the seal of approval of the Comic Book Authority.

Parents were urged to continue checking newsstands and keep a careful watch over their children's reading habits.

## Mrs. Moore Named by Chi Omega

Mrs. Robert A. Moore has been elected president of the South Bay Chi Omega Alumnae.

Election of officers was held Tuesday at the Hollywood Riviera home of Mrs. James A. Lutz.

Selected to assist the new president were Mrs. Ray S. Anderson, vice president; Mrs. Lutz, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Ray C. Griff, historian; Mrs. Quinn Boyd, publicity; and Mrs. William V. Schneider, Panhellenic Council delegate.

Following refreshments served by Mrs. Lutz and her co-hostess, Mrs. Griff, plans were discussed for the June 22 luncheon meeting.

Active Chi Omegas from local chapters will be guests at the luncheon.

## Lambda Etas Slate Party, Breakfast

A cook-out breakfast to be held for members and their families at Alondra Park on June 23 and a theater party in July were made at the meeting of the Lambda Eta Chapter at the home of Mrs. Robert Wright, 2004 Kathy Way with Mrs. William Condit co-hostess.

The unit was presented with a farewell gift by Mmes. Carl Andress, William Raines, Donald Fisher and Miss Blanche Wright who will be affiliated with the newly formed Exemplary chapter Xi Zeta Lambda.

Lambda Eta won second place in the yearly achievement award, third place in the scrapbook competition at the South Bay area Council Founders Day dinner-dance. Mrs. Carl Andress, junior past president was named "The Girl of the Year."

Members attending were Mmes. Andress, William Condit, Fran Nichols, Fred Tent, Emerson Wilce, Francis McDonald, Don Fisher, William Raines, Richard Boal, Robert Wright and Miss Blanche Wright. Guests were Mmes. John Patterson and Edward Irvin.

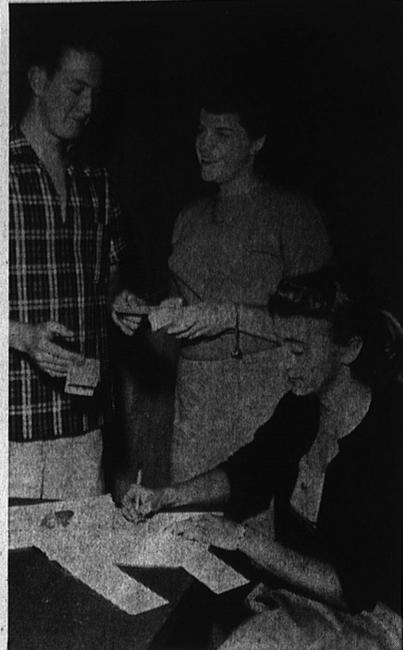
## Workshop to Hold Dinner

Second annual dinner for members and friends of the Workshop of Creative Living, 24242 Hawthorne Blvd., Waverly, will be held Saturday, 7 p.m., at La Venta Inn, Palos Verdes Estates.

The Workshop, under the direction of Dorothy and Durwood Law, is a center where those interested in the discovery and study of "the self and its higher potential" meet.

Mrs. Law was formerly with the Compton Counseling Service and her pupils are of various faiths and creeds.

The Rev. Ray Jarman of the South Gate Christian Chapel will be the speaker for the evening. His topic will be "The ABCs of Creative Living."



THE TICKET SALE IS ON... for the big after-graduation party for Torrance seniors to be held June 13 at the Pacific Coast Club in Long Beach. Pictured here is Peggy Sprout, senior class president, selling a ticket to Howard Smith as Mrs. Betty Lowe, senior class advisor, makes out the receipt. The dinner dance will begin at 10:30 p.m. and breakfast will be served at 3 a.m.

## Festive Party At Foleys

Mickey Mouse was the popular character in the decorations of the patio at the South Shores home of Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Foley on Friday morning when a birthday party was given for their daughter, Margaret Ann who was celebrating her third birthday.

The table cloth and napkins were decorated with "Mickey Mouse" and brightly colored balloons and nut cups. Each little guest was presented with a party hat.

Games were played and Margaret Ann opened her birthday gifts. Honors at the birthday party were shared with Sheryl Ann Mellor who was also celebrating a birthday.

Enjoying the party with Margaret Ann and Sheryl were Judy Downey, Donna Channey, Suzanne Mosich and Ellen Rutledge.

Mrs. Foley was assisted in entertaining by Mrs. Garth Mellor.

## IN WICHITA

Mrs. Sarah Hogue, 2115 Gramercy, is in Wichita, Kan., where she will spend several months visiting with her sisters.



ON A DESERT VACATION... are Mrs. Darlene Wilson of the Driftwood Motel on Pacific Coast Hwy. and her daughter, Miss Gay Wilson ("Miss Springs"), near their private plane at the Airport at the Desert Air Hotel in Palm Springs. The Wilsons spent several days at the resort hotel recently. (Photo by Lee Wenlick)

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